का प्रयोग जो प्रचलित है उसके लिए लास्ट एक्सपेरिमेंट कब हुआ था और कब उन्होंने कहा कि ठीक है यह नुकसानदेह और किन-किन लेबोरेट्रीज ने यह कहा ?

श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाणा : ऐसे तो देश में बहुत सा लेबोरेट्रीज हैं और हर एक टेस्ट किया जाता है, आई0सी0एम0 आर करता है, आई0 सी0 एस आर0 करता है. इसके अलावा और भी लेबोरेट्रीज हैं इससे प्रयोग करता हैं ।

From the available reports no firm conclusion can be drawn as to the causal relationship with epilepsy anaemia, leukaemia, etc.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : लास्ट कब हुआ ?

श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाणा : वह तो टाइम टु टाइम होता जाता है । उसमें डेट मेरे पास नहीं है जो मैं दे सकूं ।

*164. [*The questioner (Shri Gurudas Das Gupta) was absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 40 infra.]

*165. [*The questioner (Shri M. Baravaraju) was absent. For answe* vide *col.* 40-42 infra.]

*166. *The questioner (Shri R. Sambasiva Rao) was absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 41-42 infra.]

*167. [*The questioner (Shri Pyare lal Khandelwal) was abent For answer,* vide *col.* 42-44 infra.]

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will not be recorded.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: None of these will go no record.

*Not recoded as ordered by the Chair

Meeting of the National Water Resources Council

*168. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRDI BISWA GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the National Water Resourses Council was held in New Delhi on the 31st October, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the names of officials|personnel who participated in the meeting;

(c) what decision were arrived at in the meeting; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take on the decisions?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The first meeting of the National Water Resources Council was held on 30th October 1985.

(b) It was attended by most of the Chief Ministers of States, Administrators of Union Territories and Central Ministers concerned among others.

(c) and (d) The Council was unanimous that water should be treated as a precious and scarce national resource and be dealt with as such and that there was urgent need for the formulation of a national policy

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mukhtiar Malik.

with a view to ensuring an optional use of the available water resources in the overall national interest. Accordingly, it was decided to set up a group under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister of Water Resources to prepare a national water policy document within six months for consideration by the Council.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply to part (c) and (d) "the urgent needs for formulation of a national policy with a view to ensuring an optimal etc." Sir, may I ask the Minister--- etc." Sir, may I ask the Minister keeping in veiw this fact and also because if I am correct, in that meeting itself it had been suggesed by the Chief Minister of Haryana that on account of prolonged river water disputes among the various States which are holing up the progress of several irrigation and hydro-electric projects, resulting in a huge loss to the country in agriculture and power sectors, whether the Government is prepared to declare water as a national asset and set up a Central Water Authority equipped with necessary powers to develop the water resources of the country in an integrated manner, for the betterment of the nation as a whole?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the very fact that most of the Chief Ministers of the country did participate in the very first meeting of the National Water Resources Council and expressed their views objectively and keeping in view the national interest as also the interest of their concerned State, I am happy to say that the entire Council was almost unanimous in observing that yes, water is a national resource and in view of the growing need of water in the developing conomy of ours and its increasing demand in the various fields of irrigation, industry and for other purposes, they felt that there should be a national policy because water is becoming scarce day by day. There was a time when water was free but the time has come when we are fixing rates for water both in relation to agriculture, industry and even for domestic purposes. The management of water resources, and not only its development, is the need of the hour. Of course, many of our rivers in the country are inter-State. They not only flow though one State but also through many States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister the answer should be brief.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, I am coming to the inter-State question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, yuor preliminary observation are so wide it looks like your answering a debate.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very delicate question in the sense that it is going to deal with the inter-State aspect of the problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: So, this is the very purpose why the Council has appointed a group of Ministers with the Union Minister of Water Resources as the Chairman and they are required to draft a national policy paper within six months.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, second supplementary.

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the main reply itself and now during the reply to my first supplementary, he has stated that a group has been set up. May I know from the hon. Minister who the Members of this group are?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the members fo the group are the Chief Ministers of...

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: All the States.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: ... Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Bihar?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't prompt the Minister.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: ...and other Ministers concerned.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Not Maharashtra?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gurupadaswamy.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I agree with my hon. friend that it is a very important and sensitive issue which touches upon the States' rights also. Therefore, I would like my hon. friend to listen to me carefully when I ask this question.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: You have my ears.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: He said that there had been almost a unanimous agreement in the Council to draw up a national water policy. May I know from him whether any Chief Minister expressed any dissent, any difference of opinion in the last meeting in respect of the rights of the States and whether he expressed a doubt that this Council may circumvent, in the end, and abrogate, the rights of the States in respect of rivers in their respective States? And may I also know whether the existing river water disputes between the States and the future disputes and the authority of the tribunals will be transferred to this body? If that is so, I would like to know whether he is aware that the Constitution itself is going to be affected if this is done. The Constitution specifically provides for tribunals in respect of those cases where disputes arise. Therefore, may I know whether the constitution of the Inter-State Water Council will take away the rights of the States, will circumvent the constitutional provisions and will affect those States in particular, which are already not having many irrigation projects? Will the Minitser enlighten us on all these aspects in brief?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Before answering the question of the hon. Member, I should say again, Sir, to put the record straight, that the members of the sub-group are, besides the Union Minister of Water Resources, the Union Ministers of Agriculture and Rural Development, Transport, Energy and the Minister of State for Environment and Forests, and the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

Now, coming to the question of the hon. Member, he has asked about the views expressed by any State Chief Minister about disagreement or dissent on the constitution of this sub-group. For the information of the House I should say that there was absolutely no dissent as far as the constitution of the sub-group is concerned.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: I asked about the Council.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I am coming to that. Yes there were certain views expressed by the Chief Minister Council and the scope of its function-

of Karnataka about the very constitution of the National Water Resources Council and the scope of its functioning. He did observe his views on this constituion. Though he did not specifically say that he was opposed to this, he did say that this was done with which he was not in total agreement. However, when this sub-committee or sub-group was proposed to be constituted, not only was there no opposition to it but he agreed to be a member of this sub-group and with the express consent of the Chief Minister of Karnataka this sub-group was constituted. As regards the issue that the honourable Member has taken up in this House about transfer of inter-State river water disputes, whether this could be given to this body or with reference to the constitutional provisions vis-a-vis the provisions of certain Acts—the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act and the River Boards Act—he is seeking certain views in the matter. I should say that presently the disputes are managed within the framework of the provisions of these two Acts. The Inter-State River Water Disputes Act and the River Boards Act are being handled and happily for this country three inter-State river water disputes have been settlled. No State will be pressurised or no State will be compelled to agree to certain provisions. On the other hand, the law makes it very clear that action under the provisions of the law can only be taken with the express consent of the concerned States. These were views expressed and differences were very few. Besides, the inter-State disputes and their settlement, the differences were very minimal, to the extent that certain members did say that nothing should be tempered with the existing legal provisions, that whatever should be done could be done within the existing legal provisions and certain States did oppose that nothing should be done to take away the rights of the States over waters under the Constitution. Of course, the Constitution gives power to the Centre to manage the affairs as far as inter-State problems are concerned, their management and development within the parameters of the consent of the concerned States. As a matter of fact, the very fact that the sub-group has been appointed shows that all these aspects are going to be looked into, because, after all, they are mandatory, to prepare a policy paper for the country.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Water is the most important natural resource of this country. And we also find that a lot of water is wasted particularly because of the inter-State disputes. While some of the States are in a position to utilise the water most effectively because of fertile land available there, other States are not in a position to use the water. It is good that the Government is thinking of evolving a national policy on this. For this a natural corollary will be three things: One is all the major irrigation projects must be undertaken by the Centre and the Centre should take responsibility for them. Secondly, the big hydroelectric projects also should be the responsibility of the Union Government. And thirdly, there should be a system of linking the major rivers from north to South. As we are all aware. Dr. K. L. Rao had given a proposal earlier and unless we undertake these three things, a national policy in this respect will not be fruitful. Will the Minister consider these things.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I am very happy that the proposal has come from the honourable Member on that side..

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: It is a national problem.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I submit to the House that this proposal will be taken to the sub-group for consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Mohanarangam.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Sir, I am very glad to hear from the reply given by the honourable Minister that three inter-State water disputes were resolved and almost all the Chief Ministers were unanimous and agreed to these things. But I want to know specifically from the honourable Minister whether they have also discussed about the Cauvery waters and about the speedy implementation of the Telugu Ganga project. I also want to know whether they discussed the problem of the rivers flowing from one State to another, and whether they have come to any decision with regard to the question of nationalisation of the rivers in the country.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, it is the view of the Government that while preparing the national policy paper on this the priority item will be the demand for water which should be considered and, in our view, the demand for drinking water should have the first priority. After all, the rest of the human activities depend upon man's survival and existence and man cannot survive without water. We know about the need and necessity for and the requirements of drinking water of Tamil Nadu so far as the drinking water for Madras City is concerned. The Centre is trying its best to resolve this among Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra so far as drinking water supply to Madras City is concerned. Very recently, Sir, only last week, I had an occasion to be in Hyderabad and I discussed with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. I had also discussions with the Chief Minister of Karnataka and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. I am very keen about this and I hope that the problem will be solved and Madras will get its water very soon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Kalpnath Rai.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Sir, what about my quesion about the nationalisation of the rivers in the country?

श्री कल्पनाथ राय : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि हिन्दुस्तान में पानी के कितने रिसोर्सेज हैं और कितने पानी का इस्तेमाल होता है और कितना पानी वेस्ट होता है ? और उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में जो गंगा, घाघरा और कोसी आदि नदियां हैं और जो पिछले आजादी के 38 साल के बाद भी प्रतिवर्ष बाढ़ और सुखाड़ के लिए जिम्मेदार हैं और उन के कारण सारा उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार बर्बाद हो जाता है, तो क्या सरकार इन नदियों के पानी के उचित इस्तेमाल पर कुछ विचार कर रही है ? . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question is outside the main question and is not relevant. No, it is not relevant.

श्री कल्पनाथ राय : पहला वाला हिस्सा तो रिलिवेंट है . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: What am I to do? You are asking about something else. Yes, Prof. Lakshamanna.

श्री कल्पनाथ राय : यह तो रिलिवेंट है कि कितना पानी वेस्ट होता है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let him answer Mr. Kalpnath Rai. You see the question is about the meeting which was held under the auspices of the Sub-Committee which was constituted and all that. But you are putting a wider question All right. Mr. Minister, if you have the answer give it. Otherwise, you say that a notice will be required.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the ultimate potential that we are hoping to develop is 113 million ha...

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Pardon?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The ultimate potential that we are hoping to develop is 113 million whereas, at the moment, we have achievd nearly 68 million ha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Lakshmanna.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether, at the first meeting of the National Water Resources Council, there was unanimity among the participants that there will not be any reopening of any issue that has been settled through arbitration or through a mandatory order. Secondly, will the honourable Minister assure us that in preparing the national policy on water care would be taken to see that there would not be any kind of reopening of the issue that have been settled even if there is some demand on the part of some States?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, by now I have impliedly answered the question of the hon. Member by answering the various supplementaries, I still say that the re-opening or opening of new ones is dependent on the existing legal provisions in the various States rather than on the Centre.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jaswant Singh. Since this relates to water, I am allowing all questions.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Article 263 empowers the Union to set up an Inter-State Council. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the National Water Resources Council is a kind of forerunner setting up the Inter-State Council under Art. 263, which initially, at the time of Constitution making, was a concept precisely for settlement of disputes relating to water. I would like to ask only this question.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, for the information of the hon. Member and the House, I would like to state that the functions of the Council are:

(a) to lay down the national water policy and to review it from time to time;

(b) to consider and review water development plans submitted to it, including alternative plans, by the National Water Development Agency, River Basin Commissions, etc.;

(c) to recommend the acceptance of water plans with such modifications as may be considered appropriate and necessary;

(d) to direct carrying out such further steps as may be necessary for fuller consideration of the plans or components thereof;

(e) to advise on the modalities of resolving inter-State differences with regard to the specific water plans and such other issues that may arise during planning or implementation of the projects;

(f) to advise on practices and procedures, adminstrative arrangements and regulations for fair distribution and utilisation of water resources by different beneficiaries, keeping in view the optimum development and maximum benefit to the people; and

(g) to make—this is the last—to make such other recommendations as would faster expeditious and environmentally sound and economical development of water resources in various regions.

For this purpose the Central Council has been constituted. There was a great deliberation in the National

Development Council in 1982, and all these issues were considered. The National Development Council, whose members are Chief Ministers—unanimously decided that such a Council should be constituted, with nobody else than the Prime Minister of this country as Chairman of the Council and the Chief Ministers of all the States as members. The first thing that now they are doing is to draft a National Water Policy Paper to be accepted by all the concerned members.

श्री भंवर लाल पंवार : श्रीमन् मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या वह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि राष्ट्रीय जल संसाधन परिषद् की बैठक में राजस्थान की इंदिरा गांधी नहर परियोजना के संबंध में भी विचार विमर्श हुआ ? इस परियोजना के माध्यम से जोधपुर को पेय जल नवम्बर, 1985 तक उपलब्ध कराने की घोषणा की जा चुकी थी जब नवम्बर, 1983 में प्रधान मंत्री राजीव गांधी जोधपुर में महा मंत्री के रूप में पधारे थे । वह जल जोधपुर को कब तक उपलब्ध करा देंगे ?

दूसरे, राजस्थान में भीषण अकाल की स्थिति है । इस वर्ष जल स्तर एक दम नीचे चला गया है, बिलकुल सूख गया है। क्या मंत्री महोदय इस समस्या का तुरन्त हल करने के लिए केन्द्र की ओर से विशेष आर्थिक सहायता उपलब्ध कराने की कृपा करेंगे ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, I really share the concerned of the hon. Members for his State. I know that it is a problematic State. We have been doing whatever is possible to help the State. The question that he has asked has no direct relevance to the main question.

Implementation of the National Capital Region Scheme under the Seventh Five Year Plan.

*169. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:†

SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what financial provision is proposed to be made for the implementation of the National Capital Region Scheme during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) what is the extent to which the NCR projects are proposed to be implemented during the plan period?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): (a) A provision of Rs. 35 crores has been made in the Central Sector for the NCR Schemes in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) On the basis of the provision indicated in reply to part (a) of the Question, NCR projects to the extent involving Rs. 70 crores are proposed to be implemented during the 7th Plan period. According to the existing pattern the concerned States will contribute 50 per cent of the expenditure on matching basis.

श्री रामचन्द्र भारद्वाज : मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि दिल्ली के मुख्य कार्यकारी पार्षद श्री जगप्रवेश चन्द्र ने अक्तूबर में एक वक्तव्य दिया और उसमें यह आशंका व्यक्त की कि 77 लाख की जो दिल्ली की आबादी है वह इस शताब्दी के अंत तक 140 लाख हो जायेगी और जो 20 हजार टन गारबेज अभी

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ramchandra Bharadwaj.